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**PATENT APPLICATION****IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of

Docket No: Q84781

Chika IRI, et al.

Appln. No.: 10/516,462

Group Art Unit: 3635

Confirmation No.: 2867

Examiner: NOT YET ASSIGNED

Filed: December 03, 2004

For: STEEL-FRAMED BUILDING AND JOINT STRUCTURE BETWEEN COLUMN AND BEAM

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98****MAIL STOP AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith, along with a copy of the Supplementary European Search Report in which the listed documents were cited in counterpart European Patent Application No. EP 03 75 7186.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, and therefore no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

ALL REFERENCES CONSIDERED EXCEPT WHERE LINED THROUGH. /J.L./

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
U.S. Appln. No.: 10/516,462

Attorney Docket No.: Q84781

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant submits the following explanations:

1. An English language abstract of JP 04-044545 is submitted herewith as a concise statement of relevance of JP 04-044545.

2. An English language abstract of JP 11-093258 is submitted herewith as a concise statement of relevance of JP 11-093258.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

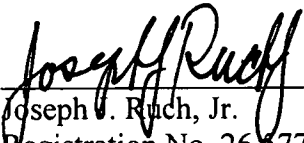
Respectfully submitted,

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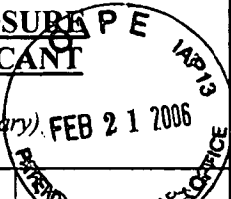
WASHINGTON OFFICE

**23373**

CUSTOMER NUMBER

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Joseph V. Ruch, Jr.  
Registration No. 26,577

Date: February 21, 2006

Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE P E</b> <b>STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> (use as many sheets as necessary)			Complete if Known	
			Application Number	10/516,462
			Confirmation Number	2867
			Filing Date	December 3, 2004
			First Named Inventor	Chika IRI
			Art Unit	3635
			Examiner Name	NOT YET ASSIGNED
			Attorney Docket Number	Q84781
			Sheet	1

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)		
		US 6,073,405		06-13-2000	Kasai et al.
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup>	Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind Code <sup>5</sup> <i>(if known)</i>			
		JP	04-044545		02-14-1992	SUMITOMO METAL IND LTD.	Abstract Only
		JP	11-093258		04-06-1999	NIPPON STEEL CORP.	Abstract Only

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation <sup>6</sup>

Examiner Signature	/Jessica Laux/	Date Considered	03/07/2008
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ALL REFERENCES CONSIDERED EXCEPT WHERE LINED THROUGH. /J.L./

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov), MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.